

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:737
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007
LOGISTIC SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH USA
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to enter in to a Logistic Support Agreement with USA;
- (b) if so, the main features of the Agreement; and
- (c) the extent to which this Agreement is likely to affect India's foreign policy?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) Government are in the process of considering a Logistics Support Agreement with the USA as a facilitating framework for mutual logistical support when deploying defence resources in disaster relief operations or joint exercises and without commitment for assistance in situations of armed conflict.

(c) The Agreement will not affect the independence of India's foreign policy. The logistical support that will be provided in disaster relief operations abroad will enhance India's ability to assist affected countries efficiently.